

Message Text

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PAGE 01 JIDDA 05103 210949Z

ACTION CU-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 HEW-04 SSO-00 USIE-00

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 INRE-00 /037 W

-----013464 210952Z /10

O P 210915Z JUL 77

FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9010

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE JIDDA 5103

PASS HEW FOR SECRETARY CALIFANO

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP, SWEL, SA (GEZAIRY, HUSSEIN A.)

SUBJECT: OFFICIAL VISIT TO US OF SAUDI ARABIAN HEALTH MINISTER

REF STATE 168378

1. ECONCOUNSELOR SAW HEALTH MINISTER OFF AT JIDDA AIRPORT
0045 HOURS JULY 21, DEPARTING VIA SV 175 FOR ROME.
ITINERARY BETWEEN ROME AND LONDON UNKNOWN. MINISTER
ASSURED EMBOFF THAT OFFICIAL PARTY DR. GEZAIRY, DR.
SAMIR ISLAM AND MR. NAZMI QUTUB) HOLDING TO SCHEDULE
WITH DEPARTURE FROM LONDON AT 1220 LOCAL ON
JULY 24 VIA PAN AM 107. FLIGHT DUE ARRIVE DULLES AT
1540 WASHINGTON TIME.

2. DEPARTMENT: PLEASE RECONFIRM THREE FIRST CLASS
RESERVATIONS FOR PARTY ON ABOVE FLIGHT AND INFORM
JAMES A. LAROCCO SO THAT HE CAN MEET.

3. RE INVITATION OF DR. J. H. ING, DIRECTOR INTER-
NATIONAL EYE FOUNDATION, APPARENTLY LETTER
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HAD NOT REACHED DR. GEZAIRY. EMBOFF EXTENDED INVI-
TATION ON BEHLAF OF DR. KING. MINISTER
EXPRESSED HESITATION, PLEADING NEED FOR REST FOLLOWING
TRIP. EMBOFF EXPLAINED THAT WITH MID-AFTERNOON ARRIVAL
WASHINGTON, THERE SHOULD BE TIME FOR REST BEFORE DINNER.
ON THAT BASIS, MINISTER PLEASED TO ACCEPT INVITATION
FOR HIMSELF AND AIDES. PLEASE MAKE CERTAIN THAT

MINISTER GETS TO HOTEL FOR SOME REST BEFORE DINNER.

4. NO FURTHER BIO DATA AVAILABLE. BEST BACK-
GROUNDER CAN BE PROVIDED BY LAROCCO.

5. RE MEDIA; EMBASSY HAS NO PARTICULAR GUIDANCE TO OFFER
WITH THIS EXCEPTION. IN ATTEMPTING TO PERSUADE MINISTER
TO FOLLOW THROUGH ON OUR INVITATION AFTER TWO FALSE
STARTS, ECONCOUNSELOR STRESSED POLITICAL IMPORTANCE OF
VISIT AS WELL AS PROFESSIONAL MEDICAL CONSIDERATIONS.
WE SAID MINISTER'S VISIT, FOLLOWING CLOSELY THAT
OF CROWN PRINCE FAHD, WOULD HELP KEEP SAUDI PRESENCE
AND VIEWS BEFORE US PUBLIC. THESE NOTIONS WERE NOT LOST
ON DR. GEZAIRY AND COULD POSSIBLY HAVE BEEN TELLING IN
MAKING HIS FINAL DECISION. BELIEVE MINISTER WILL NOT
BE AVERSE TO INTERVIEWS AND PUBLIC ATTENTION. WE ARE
ALSO INTERESTED IN HIS EDUCATION TO US EXPERTISE IN
HEALTH AND MEDICINE WITH THE HOPE THAT THERE MAY BE
EVENTUAL PAY OUT IN SHARE OF MINISTRY BUSINESS FOR US
FIRMS.
WEST

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Message Attributes

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